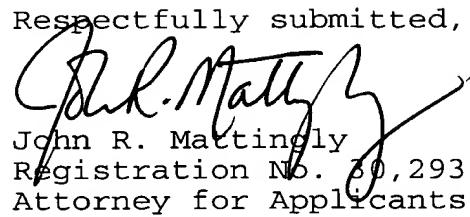


REMARKS

Examination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**MARKED UP VERSION OF REPLACED  
PARAGRAPH(S) OF THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, first full paragraph (lines 5-9), the marked up paragraph is as follows:

The present invention relates to a storage system, more specifically, to a charging method based on the used volume of the storage system, the reduced initial investment for a storage system, and easy volume addition of the storage system, [and the used volume of the storage system,] and to a storage system for realizing the charging method.

Page 8, the first full paragraph, (lines 7-14), the marked up paragraph is as follows:

The management part 14 of the storage system 10 has a table for managing on-demand flag information. The on-demand flag is reset so as to increase the usable volume. The owner of the storage system 10 uses the operation part 15 at shipment of the system to set an on-demand flag on a given logical volume basis to the disk drive 12 and rents the system 10. The management unit is not limited to the logical [logic] volume, and may be an RAID group, a physical volume, or an address.

Pages 8 and 9, the paragraph bridging page 8, line 18 through page 9, line 2, the marked up paragraph is as follows:

In the on-demand volume, all the logical [logic] volumes to which the on-demand flags are set are managed. The on-demand flag attributes are all "Set" at shipment, and are recorded into the management table as "Reset" when the flag is reset. Once this flag is reset, the initial state cannot be returned. When the flag is reset, the reset date and time to the second are recorded into the management table. Items managed by the table may be volume numbers in place of the on-demand volume, or may include identification information inherent to the user and system use periods.

Pages 15 and 16, the paragraph bridging page 15, line 23 through page 16, line 9, the marked up paragraph is as follows:

The user orders to the owner of the storage system a storage system having a total volume of 2TB of the initial introduction volume 1TB and the added volume 1TB for the next 6 months. The owner who has received the order ships a system of the construction for setup and rents it to the user. At this time, the owner constructs and sets the system so that the user automatically notifies the user starting of the added volume. For rental, the storage system includes, not only a disk drive, but also hardware required for the next 6 months (a disk drive, a housing mounting the disk drive, a cache memory and other components to construct the storage system such as[,] a storage medium [to construct the storage system],

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a controller, a host interface, a relay between the storage systems). (STEP S2)

Page 18, the fourth full paragraph, (lines 19-24), the marked up paragraph is as follows:

The disk volume is described above as an example. The cache volume and other components [elements] to construct the storage system (a housing mounting the disk drive, a storage medium constructing the storage system, a controller, a host interface, and a relay between the storage systems) are reviewed on the fixed period basis and are added for reflection on the charged cost.

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